

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 11 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 18 is a flowchart of a method of driving the flat lamp according to the first embodiment of the present invention; ~~and~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 13 with the following amended paragraphs:

FIG. 19 is a flowchart of a method of driving the flat lamp according to the second embodiment of the present invention; and

FIGS. 20A-C are perspective views of the inventive flat lamp showing the arrangement of electrodes in a sine-wave shape (FIG. 20A), a sawtooth shape (FIG. 20B), and a square-wave shape (FIG. 20C).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

While this invention has been particularly shown and described with reference to preferred embodiments thereof, the preferred embodiments should be considered in descriptive senses only and not for purposes of limitation. For example, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that although electrodes constituting each of the first or second electrode groups or electrodes constituting each of the first or second electrode sets are fundamentally arranged in

a striped pattern in the flat lamps according to the first through fourth embodiments of the present invention, the shape of the electrodes may be changed. For example, the electrodes may have a straight line shape (as shown in FIG. 4) or sine-wave ~~wave~~ shape (as shown in FIG. 20A) or sawtooth shape (as shown in FIG. 20B) or square-wave shape (as shown in FIG. 20C) or may be formed to have longitudinal tips. In addition, while a gap between the electrodes constituting the first or second electrode group is less than a gap between the first or second electrode groups, a gap between one electrode and an adjacent electrode may be different from a gap between the other electrodes including the adjacent electrode. In other words, although a gap between the electrodes constituting each of the electrode groups is constant in the first and second embodiment, the gap may vary. Therefore, the scope of the invention is defined by the appended claims, not by the detailed description of the invention.